

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for Pakistan's cancelling the order of Sugar;
- (d) whether the Trading Corporation of Pakistan has used the State Trading Corporation for damages caused to Pakistan by entering into the deal with;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Spoiled Wheat

451. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether lakhs of tonne of wheat has been spoiled and is not fit for human consumption due to the official negligence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the officials responsible for this negligence and the action being taken against them; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. There is no spoiled wheat with Food Corporation of India. However, the stocks of foodgrains which are affected due to natural calamities like cyclone, flood, unprecedented rains etc. during storage in open due to paucity of space, are salvaged and the affected stocks which cannot be retrieved as sound grains, are categorised as damaged grains unfit for human consumption and disposed of through other channels as per procedure.

The stocks of foodgrains are stored by scientific methods in the FCI godowns and subjected to thorough examination by trained Quality Control Officers on fortnightly basis regularly. Periodical dis-infestation treatments is imparted to protect the stored grain from spoilage during storage because of various factors like moisture, insects rodents, micro organism etc.

[English]

Endemic Species

452. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any estimation of regional distribution of endemic species has been made by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the Himalayas and Western Ghats;
- (c) whether there is any change in their figures in the last decade; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) Survey of flora and fauna of India is continuously being done by Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India. 65% of the total area of the country has been surveyed so far. As per the publications of the Botanical survey of India in 1990 endemic plant species in Himalayas and Western Ghats are 3003 and 1500 respectively. The figures of endemic species of birds and mammals for Himalayas and Western Ghats are 46 and 26 respectively as per the publications of Zoological Survey of India in 1994.

Ban on Lottery

453. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to ban lottery in the entire country;
- (b) if so, the states where lottery has been banned so far; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ban the same in the remaining States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Allotment of Land to Israel Government

454. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided to allot 25 acres of prime land inside the Indian Agricultural Institute (IARI) campus to the Government of Israel for the purpose of setting up a demonstration unit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the scientists of the Institution has protested against the Government's decision to allot the land; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING